

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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ICA-11 IO-13 EB-08 TRSE-00 OES-07 EUR-12 ACDA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7669

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

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TAGS PFOR BR PU

SUBJECT: GUINEA-BISSAU FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER VISITS BRAZIL

1. SUMMARY. GUINEA-BISSAU FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER VICTOR SAUDE MARIA VISITED BRAZIL MAY 17-24 TO RENEW CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND CONCLUDE VARIOUS ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS. SAUDE MET WITH PRESIDENT GEISEL AND RECEIVED CUSTOMARY PATERNALISTIC TREATMENT BY GOB HOST FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA. JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS SIGNED AND BILATERAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION WAS ESTABLISHED. END SUMMARY.

2. GUINEA-BISSAU FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER VICTOR SAUDE MARIA, LEADING EIGHT-MEMBER DELEGATION, ARRIVED IN BRAZIL MAY 17 FOR SEVEN-DAY STAY. PRIMARY PURPOSE, ACCORDING TO ARRIVAL STATEMENT BY GUINEA-BISSAU FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN, WAS TO DISCUSS GENERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES AND TO SIGN BILATERAL ACCORDS ON AGRICULTURAL, FISHING AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION. IN FACT, THREE AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED BY SAUDE MARIA AND HIS HOST, GOB FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA: TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, TRADE, AND COOPERATION; TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ACCORD; AND TRADE AGREEMENT. RIO'S O GLOBO (MAY 19) REPORTED THAT THE TRADE AND

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COOPERATION PACT MENTIONED POSSIBILITY THAT BRAZIL WOULD EXTEND TO GUINEA-BISSAU A LINE OF CREDIT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BRAZILIAN INDUSTRIAL GOODS, PLANS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND PROPOSALS FOR THE CREATION OF BINATIONAL ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES. A MIXED COMMISSION OF COORDINATION WAS ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST THE TWO COUNTRIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE TERMS OF THE VARIOUS ACCORDS. ADDITIONALLY, GOB MADE A SCHOLAR-

SHIP AVAILABLE FOR TRAINING A GUINEA-BISSAU DIPLOMAT AT RIO BRANCO INSTITUTE, GOB'S FOREIGN SERVICE ACADEMY.

3. SAUDE MARIA WAS RECEIVED MAY 18 BY PRESIDENT GEISEL FOR 45 MINUTE MEETING IN WHICH, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS WAS THE CUBAN AND SOVIET MILITARY ROLE IN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY DURING THE CURRENT FIGHTING IN ZAIRE. SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THE SAME DAY, SAUDE MARIA DUCKED THE ISSUE BUT CLARIFIED HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION BY SAYING: "WE MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND THE SOVIET UNION, COUNTRIES WHICH GAVE US DECISIVE SUPPORT WHEN PAIGC WAS STILL FIGHTING IN THE JUNGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION AGAINST THE FASCIST PORTUGUESE REGIME." WHEN A REPORTER REMINDED SAUDE THAT THE GOB HAD SUPPORTED PORTUGAL DURING THAT STRUGGLE, SAUDE MARIA REPLIED THAT THERE IS ALWAYS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PEOPLE AND A GOVERNMENT: GOVERNMENTS PASS ON BUT THE PEOPLE REMAIN. HE WAS CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE FAVORED GUINEA-BISSAU'S LIBERATION. IN ANY EVENT, WHEN INDEPENDENCE WAS FINALLY ACHIEVED, THE GOB RECOGNIZED THE NEW GOVERNMENT. FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN LUIZ FELIPE LAMPREIA ANNOUNCED THAT GOB WOULD NOT TAKE A POSITION ON THE ZAIRE CONFLICT, BUT THAT NO COUNTRY HAD THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A SOVEREIGN NATION.

4. GOB HAD OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY ROLE OF PATERNAL, WELL-ENDOWED, GENEROUS GIANT TO POOR, SMALL, FELLOW PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUSIN. FIRST EVENING BANQUET WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY SPEECH BY FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA, WHO ALLOWED THAT WHILE BRAZIL WAS STILL A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPENING COUNTRY WITH A LONG WAY TO GO, IT WOULD IN ANY EVENT "ACT WITH REALISM" IN PROVIDING WHATEVER TECHNICAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA-BISSAU IT COULD. SILVEIRA ALSO REITERATED STANDARD THEMES OF RIGHT OF SOVEREIGNTY, SELF-DETERMINATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, NOTING THAT IN THESE RESPECTS BRAZIL "BELIEVED IN THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES." IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BY THE TWO CHANCELLORS, SPECIAL MENTION WAS MADE OF THE NEED FOR WORLD (ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR) DISARMAMENT, THE IMPORTANCE FOR DEVELOPING NATIONS TO HAVE NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES WITH APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS, AND THE COMMON INTEREST IN A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

5. FOLLOWING TWO DAYS OF OFFICIAL TALKS, WHICH ALSO INCLUDED VISIT TO NATIONAL CONGRESS AND TALKS WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER PAULINELLI, SAUDE MARIA LEFT BRASILIA FOR A PERIOD OF TOURISM IN SALVADOR, RIO DE JANEIRO, AND SAO PAULO BEFORE RETURNING HOME ON MAY 24. JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

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